

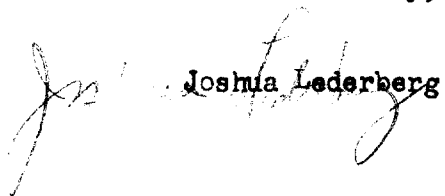
March 16, 1953

Dear Dr. Bernstein:

Thank you for your very prompt reply, dated the 11th, just received. Your letter is ~~reassuring~~ ~~ampl~~ly reassuring. I had to anticipate the sort of delays you mention, but will understand that I could not reserve an appointment against other applications until I had some word about your intentions. If, as you imply, you "are most keen to apply", and hope to succeed in your application for leave, I will be happy to reserve the appointment until you can complete your formal application. Final approval will have to be determined from this, but is mostly a matter of assuring a mutual understanding of the terms and aims of the arrangement. If my last letter has not discouraged you, and you remain satisfied in your own mind that ~~would~~ you would like to work here for another degree, the battle is well over half won.

The minimum stipend for the assistantship, which as I mentioned before is all that can be guaranteed at present, should be adequate for personal subsistence-- at least almost all of our graduate students do manage on this basis. We both recognize that your tenure here would be more in the nature of a post-doctoral fellowship, and I will do whatever I can, in the framework of overall policy, to adjust your stipend to such a basis. It would be quite consistent with the assistantship award for you to accept any other fellowship or grant-in-aid consistent with your research here. I do not know whether your matriculation as a candidate for the Ph.D., or your acceptance of a research-assistantship here would conversely bar any alternative support: you might do well to inquire of Stocker and Spicer whose recent experience has been very pertinent. However, I would continue to encourage you, in any supplementary plans you may consider, to continue to think of a two-year (at least) tenancy. We have enjoyed the visits of these lastnamed compatriots of yours ~~that I found the~~ so much that I want the next of the sort to be less tantalizingly brief.

Yours sincerely,

 Joshua Lederberg